

TO: Senator Birkholz, senpbirkholz@senate.michigan.gov
Representative Warren, rebekawarren@house.mi.gov

FROM: Marge Nurski, the Scenic Motel, Rose City, MI

DATE: March 30, 2009

Although I am unable to attend the open hearing on the proposed revision to Michigan State Park funding, I would like to share my support of this Bill.

When my husband & I were looking for a motel to purchase, we sought areas that would allow us to enjoy our passions also. These include XC skiing, hiking, snowshoeing, mountain biking, birding, fishing, canoeing, scenic motorcycle tours, & observable animal life in natural surroundings. When a property became known to us in Rose City & we discovered that there was a State Park within 5 miles, the deal was sealed. State Parks support our passions & hopefully our guests also.

Unfortunately, we've never ridden our motorcycles thru a State Park nor has my car ever entered a State Park. You see we bought only 1 permit per year & if we didn't have the "Park Car" while we were traveling thru the state, then we simply did not avail ourselves of the many State Parks thru-out Michigan.

Our guests exhibit much the same behavior. Many don't even realize that the Rifle River Rec Area is so close, nor the majestic beauty of this Park with its nesting eagles, major fishing lakes, rolling hills, wild life population ranging from bear to porcupine! For want of a 1 day pass, they miss this rare opportunity to explore. The majority of our guests are from Michigan. Given the proposed bill, these intrastate tourists are the new State Park visitor. We recognize that the presence of the State Park in such close proximity to our motel is an added attraction for our guest & these guests bring business to our town...to our state.

The State Park systems of Michigan & this nation are a treasure to be enjoyed by all its citizens. Given the difficult economic times ahead for most all of us, these beautiful scenic protected areas may be the escape that most of us will seek in order to heal.

Sincerely,
Marge Nurski
Scenic Motel